crystal from On-line Medical Dictionary



crystal

A <u>solid</u> of <u>regular shape</u> and, for a <u>given compound</u>, <u>characteristic angles</u>, <u>formed</u> when an <u>element</u> or compound solidifies slowly <u>enough</u>, as a <u>result</u> either of <u>freezing</u> from the <u>liquid</u> form or of precipitating out of <u>solution</u>, to allow the <u>individual molecules</u> to <u>take</u> up regular <u>positions</u> with <u>respect</u> to one another.

Origin: G. Krystallos, clear ice, crystal

(05 Mar 2000)

Previous: cryptoxanthin, cryptozoite, cryptozogous, crypts of iris, cry reflex

Next: crystal, birefringent, crystallin, crystalline, crystalline capsule

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